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**File - Serial Charge Out
FD-5 (Rev. 10-13-89)**

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Date charged

Location

and a resident of Mendocino County.

Pressures have been mounting for years, but escalated into violence last summer when environmentalists stepped up their activism.

In June, Earth First!, organizer Greg King, was punched and knocked to the ground during a demonstration at a Louisiana-Pacific mill north of Ukiah. In August, a logger slugged activist Meni Hill, breaking her nose. A few days later, a logging truck rammed into the back of Earth First! spokeswoman Judi Bari's car, with her two young daughters and another activist's children inside.

Insufficient evidence

Authorities said there was insufficient evidence in two of the incidents to warrant prosecution. A man later pleaded guilty to slugging King.

"That's what we were facing before we called for Mississippi Summer in the Redwoods," said Bari of Earth First!, who said she has received several death threats in recent months.

Since its founding in 1980, Earth First! has advocated sabotaging logging equipment and driving long metal spikes into trees to scare away loggers. Members call themselves eco-warriors. Critics call them terrorists.

In sounding the nationwide call for Redwood Summer, Earth First! issued a statement last month saying that the Sierra Club did not

support the tactic because of respect for trees, songs to learn and sing.

A tape, written mainly by Earth First! troubadour Darryl Cherney, called "They Sure Don't Make Hippies Like They Used To," includes such songs as "You Can't Clearcut Your Way to Heaven," "Knocking on Extinction's Door," and "Spike A Tree, For Jesus." Although Earth First! has been accused of spiking trees around the country to thwart logging, the group said spiking will not be condoned during "Redwood Summer."

As proof of their peaceful intent, Earth First! members point to the endorsement of their plans by San Francisco-based Seeds of Peace and Brian Willson of the Center for the Practice of Non-violence. Willson, a Vietnam War veteran, lost his legs in 1987 when he was run over by a train at the Concord Naval Weapons Station during a blockade to protest the war in El Salvador.

Lynch mob mentality

"He's done what we're going to do—put his body on the line in a non-violent blockade," said Bari of Earth First!. "There's this lynch mob mentality being whipped up. We need to let them know this is not just Earth First!"

But so far, mainstream environmental groups have not endorsed "Redwood Summer."

Lucas, head of the Sierra Club's State Forest Practices Task Force, issued a statement last month saying that the Sierra Club did not

support the tactic because of respect for violence. A week later, leaders of the club's Redwood Chapter denounced her stance, saying they "respect and appreciate our Earth First! friends and what they are trying to accomplish."

The Sierra Club is expected to take a formal stand early next month. Others already have signed on, saying they will welcome the students and put them to work, too.

"They aren't coming here to get into a battle or a war with the timber industry," said Rondal Snodgrass, a civil rights activist in Mississippi in 1964 who now serves as executive director of Sanctuary Forest, a non-profit land trust.

"They're coming because they want to help. I got one call from a Catholic college and another from an Episcopal minister, who said several people are interested in coming."

Law enforcement and some loggers are hoping no one comes. But if crowds do appear, both camps

say they'll be ready.

"If they stand in my way and try to stop me, there's going to be violence," said Gary Miner of Willets, an independent logging truck driver. "I've got a wife and three kids, and they come first."

Others have made similar comments, although privately, some loggers say they support what the environmentalists are trying to do. "There's lots of potential for violence due to the protesters' mind set, and their dedication for their cause and the fact that the loggers depend on their livelihood in logging," said Lt. Jay Miller, spoke-



Activist

Marc Labelle, above

left, Jessica Bari and

Earth First! spokes-

woman Judi Bari pro-

test an asphalt plant

built in a residential

area of Ukiah. Terri

and Mark Wright, left,

who drove out from

Austin, Texas, to join

the Redwood Summer

sit outside their cabin

in the woods with

their dog Mar.

Law enforcement officials are more worried about this summer—not tomorrow.

Actions surrounding Earth Day last month don't make them feel any better. Some time in the night or early morning of April 22-23, activists sabotaged PG&E transmission lines in Santa Cruz County.

The previously unknown Earth

Night Action Group claimed

responsibility for the action and threatened further sabotage against "corporate earth rapists."

Numerous Earth First! spokes-

men said their group was not in-

volved and will not take similar

action on the North Coast.

"We're just hoping and praying

we don't get all these college kids

said Fortuna Police Chief Lee

Evanson.

For the past month, police and

sheriff's deputies in the Redwood

Empire have been meeting to dis-

cuss how they will control the

crowds and keep the peace at the

mass protests that are expected.

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ging," said Lt. Jay Miller, spoke-

man for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department.

"Our concern is that a lot of these people wouldn't recognize a redwood if they saw one, but they plan to come here and go out into the woods. We're hoping there will be no injuries or loss of life."

"Hopefully, they won't end up in somebody's marijuana field and get their heads shot off,"

Terri and Mark Wright from

Texas said they knew the haz-

ards when they quit their jobs as

a landscape foreman and clerk at

a drug and rehabilitation clinic in

Austin, and came to California a

month ago. They say saving the

redwoods is worth the risks.

"We saw some pictures of clear-

cutting and some pictures of a

pristine forest," Mark Wright said.

"I put them beside each other and

it blew me away. We just want to

help in any way we can."

Redwood Empire residents open homes to activists

REDWOOD, from Page 1A

forests, people are finally realizing that it's happening here, too."

The planned protests come at a time when tensions between lumber companies and environmentalists are at their highest in decades. Three forest initiatives — two backed by environmentalists, and the other by the timber industry — will be on the November ballot. And the industry remains under fire for stepping up exports and accelerating cutting of forests, including 1,000-year-old redwoods and Douglas firs.

Recently released figures from the state, for example, reveal that the County last year logged at a rate that was 320 percent greater than replanted forests were growing.

A logging frenzy?

"We expect that to rise to 400 percent this year as a result of what some call a logging frenzy, a logging boom so great that loggers and truck drivers are coming from as far away as Idaho and Colorado," said Lucas, head of the Sierra Club's

pledged to give up those tactics. Instead, they say they have focused on ways to keep the summer calm.

In packets of information sent to 450 colleges around the country, they have warned students not to bring dogs, weapons, drugs or alcohol.

Those who come out expect things like tree-sitting, tree-hugging, log road blocking, banner hanging and picketing, according to Redwood Summer packets.

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All participants will be given

non-violence training and must agree to a code that prohibits damaging property or people, spokesmen said.

"As word has gotten out, residents from Ukiah all the way up the coast to Crescent City in Del Norte County have offered to open their homes to forest freedom riders," said Gall. "A base camp will open in about two weeks, when many stu-



Photographs by Eugene Lione -- Mercury News